The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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A man of courage is also full of faith.—Cicero.

WHOLE NO. 1059. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1931 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 21. NO. 20.

THIRD WINTER OF UNEMPLOYMENT

The third winter of unemployment is approaching. Those charged with surveying the condition agree that the situation will be much more serious than during the two previous winters.

It is not expected that there will be any diminution of the 6,000,000 now estimated to be barred from work. Indeed, the indications point to an increase above that number.

Welfare workers state that during the first four months of 1931 relieving the unemployed cost about 75 per cent of the total for 1930. It is said that this increase does not necessarily indicate an increase in the number of out-of-works during that period. It means that workers suffering continued unemployment or having intermittent work had spent their savings in order to buy a living for their families and finally reached the poverty status and became the unwilling recipients of charity relief.

On the charity side the situation is not cheerful. Relief organizations admit that large numbers of persons of moderate means who normally support community chests and similar funds will be unable to contribute as liberally this year as formerly. It has been quite customary for large employers to pledge large sums to charity organizations and then in reality compel their employes to pay a large portion of the pledge although the compulsion was masked under the guise of voluntary contributions. But with so many employes on reduced earnings resulting from part-time work and other forms of wage reductions the employers will be unable to tap this source of charity contributions the coming winter.

Every sign indicates that the bulk of next winter's necessarily immense fund to provide at least 6,000,000 unemployed workers and their families with the means of life and health must come from public funds.

Reliable statistics show that in 1929 about 60 per cent of the cost of direct family relief in 100 representative cities was paid out of public funds. In 1930, with the total relief cost greatly increased, public funds paid 72 per cent.

During the coming winter the total cost of providing the unemployed with the requisite amount of food, clothing, shelter, and schooling for children of school age, will exceed the cost during either of the two preceding winters. Private charity organizations like the community chest are making arrangements for a federated drive in October for $82,000,000 for winter relief work. The drive for private charity funds has the official backing of the President's Emergency Committee for Employment. But the major reliance must be on public funds.

Municipal and county public funds are under the control of bodies responsible to the voters made up largely of working people. The workers through their trade unions and other organizations should be able in an organized way to see to it that the only limit on private charity and the appropriation of public funds for relief of the jobless shall be the provision of decent living standard for all unemployed workers and their family dependents. Anything less will be a discredit to American institutions.

SENSE ON WAGES

The fantastic idea, held by certain employers and their economists, that the business depression can be cured by reducing wages is emphatically riddled by the Midland Bank of Great Britain in a statement which is understood to be directly inspired by Mr. Reginald McKenna, chairman of the bank.

Wage cutters both in the United States and Great Britain insist that the cost of manufactured goods must be brought down to the depreciated level of commodity prices.

Wages, they say, are a substantial element in the cost of manufacture and should be drastically deflated to assist in adjusting costs to prices.

Dr. Sprague, Economic Adviser of the Bank of England, recently urged reducing costs of production in manufacturing countries, chiefly at the expense of wages, until the prices of finished goods are brought down to the distressing level of agricultural prices.

The Midland Bank attacks this theory. It maintains that it is supreme folly to rely for revival of world business upon a downward adjustment of all prices to the level of those now obtaining for primary materials.

It insists that wage reductions and the general policy of working for lower commodity prices will end in "ultimate economic collapse." It holds that wages should be maintained and that the combined efforts of everyone should be used to advance commodity prices above the present level.

It should not be necessary for anyone either in Great Britain or the United States to warn against the suicidal policy of wage cutting.

Business and employment depend upon the purchasing power of the people at home and abroad. The larger their purchasing power, the larger is their ability to buy the goods which other people produce.

It is axiomatically clear that the purchasing power of the masses of the people depends on their wages. If they are paid low wages, their ability to purchase goods is small; and the less goods they buy the less employment there is for the millions who produce the goods.

These economic facts are plain. Yet there are shortsighted employers and economists who are ready with the theory that the main thing necessary to end industrial depression is wholesale wage reductions and the consequent heavy reduction in the purchasing power of the masses.

Wage reducing has already been tried in the United States.

Before the depression was out of swaddling clothes the employers applied their theory by throwing millions of workers, ultimately 6,000,000, into unemployment, and reducing their purchasing power to nothing. They have kept in the work by placing thousands more on part time. In addition, there have been many reductions in wage rates both for full time and part time workers.

Employers have thus drastically reduced the purchasing power and lowered the standards of living of millions of our workers and their families. But from month to month the business depression does not show tangible signs of recovery.

The lesson is clear. The sure way to business recovery, the sure way to overcome the slump which is paralyzing the entire world, is to increase rather than decrease the living standards of the masses.

Wages must not be cut.

WOMEN AS WAGE-EARNERS

Women should receive the same pay as men for equal work performed. Women workers must not be permitted to perform tasks disproportionate to their physical strength or which tend in any manner to undermine health and prevent the continuation of pair their potential motherhood and prevent the continuation of a nation or strong, healthy, sturdy and intelligent men and women.

—Excerpt from A. F. of L. Reconstruction Program.

COMPANY UNION MEN GET $500,000 WAGE CUT

New York, June 25.—The Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit Corporation has imposed a wage cut on about 10,000 of its company union employees. It is estimated the reduction will add $500,000 to the profits of the company.

For the 11 months ending May 31, the B. M. T. company reported a net income of $6,929,121, an increase of nearly $200,000 more than in the same period for the previous year.

The company officials increase the wage cut by maintaining the present wage rate per hour and reducing the number of hours which the employe will be permitted to work per day or per week. The company also cut in half the $5 bonus per month allowed train crews for each month of operation without accidents.

Subway and elevated motormen do not belong to the company union, but are largely members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. They are not affected by the wage cut.

During recent months the company has greatly extended the one-man car system and established the system of operating six-car trains with only two trainmen.

WAGES AND JOBS SLUMP FOR NEW YORK WORKERS

Albany, N. Y., July 25.—Both pay rolls and the number of employed workers in New York State suffered heavy losses in June, according to an announcement by Industrial Commissioner Frances Perkins.

The number of workers employed in June was 15 per cent less than last June and 25 per cent less than in June, 1929. Pay rolls were 23 per cent lower than in June, 1930, and 35 per cent lower than in June two years ago. The average weekly earnings of factory workers dropped to $26.34, showing a loss of 62 cents since May. Average weekly earnings have not been down to the present level since the early months of 1912, it was asserted.

100,000 IN BREAD LINES SEEN IN SASKATCHEWAN

Montreal, July 25.—One hundred thousand unemployed persons will have to be fed by the provincial and federal governments of Canada next winter, according to a prediction made by Howard McConnell, provincial treasurer and minister of municipal affairs for Saskatchewan.

BUILDING TRADE WAGE RATES NOT REDUCED

New York, July 25.—Hourly wage rates in the building trades throughout the United States have had an almost uninterrupted rise since 1922, according to the National Industrial Conference Board. At the end of 1930 the composite hourly wage rate of 15 building trades in 23 cities was $7.4 per cent higher than in 1923.

"There is no evidence available, therefore," states the board, "that the current depression has adversely affected wage rates in the building industry. Whether or not it has lowered the earnings of building workers, it is impossible to determine from these figures. That depends entirely on the time worked, or the number of hours during which building workers have been employed."

According to the board the highest rates for 1930 were made in carpentry and bricklayers, both averaging $1.70 an hour. The lowest rate was for laborers, averaging $1.07 per hour and an hour, and the next lowest for hod carriers, nearly 97 cents an hour. All other classes were paid more than $1 an hour.

5,000 SALESGIRLS HAVE LONG WORK WEEK

Washington, July 25.—A surprisingly large number of owners and operators of 5-and-10-cent and other limited price stores impose a working week of 48 hours and over on their saleswomen, according to a statement by the United States Women's Bureau. The data, cover the years 1920 to 1928 and include over 5,000 women employed in 18 States. A strikingly large proportion of the women work from 48 to 54 hours.

Employers who impose long hours on Saturday are largely to blame for the long week. From Monday to Friday none of the stores had daily schedules in excess of 9 hours and some worked less than 8 hours. But on Saturday, the Bureau says, "not far from three-fifths of the girls were employed more than 9 hours, about three-tenths had a schedule for this day of over 10 hours and over one-fifth were expected to put in a Saturday in excess of 11 hours."

OKLAHOMA JOBLESS LEVY FOOD SUPPLIES

Henryetta, Okla., July 25.—About 300 unemployed men and women marched on the grocery stores here and demanded food supplies for an emergency relief station they had established in the City Hall. The unemployed were levied upon for groceries and used no force. Most of the merchants contributed.

Many families here have been in dire distress for months because of the shutdown of the coal mines and the general business depression.

Rev. Charles Hoffman, a minister from Dewar, a mining village near Henryetta, has been active in carrying on the relief organization in the quest for food.

Governor Murray promised to aid the unemployed if they would agree to work. He admits they are hungry and that something must be done, but declares that "you can't just feed them or they'll sit down and expect it."

Officials in charge of the American Red Cross headquarters at St. Louis declared they could do nothing to relieve the situation either at Henryetta or elsewhere. The Red Cross organization, it was stated, has taken no steps to relieve unemployment distress anywhere.

AIR-COOLED BUILDINGS FOR FEDERAL WORKERS

Washington, July 25.—From now on all the larger government buildings erected in Washington will be air cooled in order to bring a reasonable degree of comfort to the government workers during the intense warm weather that prevails in Washington during the summer. The supervising architect of the Treasury in charge of the building program, is undecided on the question of designing the smaller buildings with the cooling system.

For the larger buildings the cost of installing the air conditioner system will be around $300,000 when provision for it is made in the original plans. In consequence, the Internal Revenue Building, now under construction, will not have this facility because the cost would be around $700,000 due to the fact that it was not in the initial plans.

Internal Revenue Bureau employes insist that the heat in the building they work should be cooled like the others, even though the additional cost covers around $400,000. Otherwise the present practice of dismissing workers on intensely hot afternoons will have to be continued.

IMMIGRATION DECLINE HELPS EMPLOYMENT

Washington, July 25.—Immigration for the calendar year 1931 will not exceed 50,000, a total depreciation of over 20,000, leaving a net immigrant increase of but 30,000, the lowest figure to soak predicts. Immigration has passed the 50,000 mark every year since 1831, when the total was 22,633.

The Department of Labor holds that the decreasing number of immigrants is of benefit to the workers in the United States because nearly all immigrants are potential wage earners. The oversupply and consequent unemployment of many classes of labor can be attributed to the unlimited immigration in the past.

CONTRACTORS IGNORE BACON WAGE RATE LAW

Washington, July 25.—John J. Gleeson, national secretary of the International Union of Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers, declared that contracts with the Department of Labor charging that the officers of the Army and Langley Field, Va., are being constructed by workers paid less than the standard wage rate are nearly all true.

Gleeson declares that bricklayers working on these projects are paid 75 cents an hour, whereas the standard wage rate is $1.50 per hour. This practice is in violation of the Bacon law passed at the last session of Congress to prevent contractors on government work from fixing wages below the standard prevailing in the community where the work is done.

Hugh L. Kerwin, chief of the conciliation bureau of the Labor Department, said the wage scales at Langley Field are "now under investigation" and appropriate action will be taken. Mr. Kerwin admitted that numerous complaints had been received from various unions throughout the country that contractors were violating local wage scales. He said most of the disputes were being adjusted rapidly and without friction.

Hoover Continues Efforts to Help Coal Industry; Seeks Joint Parley

Washington, July 25.—Secretary of Commerce Lamont and Secretary of Labor Doak have asked 125 operators if they will attend a general conference with representatives of the United Mine Workers of America to consider the condition of the bituminous coal industry and devise methods for reducing the present evils of overproduction and unemployment.

The letter to the operators was made public shortly after Secretary Lamont had discussed the situation with President Hoover.

This is the third step in the effort of the Government to find some means of bettering conditions in the coal industry.

John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, started the movement on June 11 by asking President Hoover to call a conference between operators and miners. The request was referred to the Secretaries of Commerce and Labor, who arranged separate preliminary meetings of the operators and representatives of the miners' union.

The present letter is designed to obtain a more general view of the attitude of the operators than was secured from the relatively small group which met with the Secretaries of Labor originally convened in Washington by Secretary Lamont.

President Hoover has stated that his "administration is desirous of lending every possible assistance to any constructive program put forward by operators and miners" for bettering conditions in the soft coal industry.

Death Calls Morris Sigman, Former President, Ladies' Garment Workers

New York, July 25.—The funeral of Morris Sigman, former president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, who died at Stony Lake, Ontario, was held in the building of the Jewish Daily Forward. Representatives of the entire New York labor movement and of the American Federation of Labor participated.

Addresses were made by Benjamin Schlesinger, president of the International Union; Edward F. McGrady, legislative representative of the American Federation of Labor, representing William Green, president of the Federation, and spokesmen of other labor organizations. The interment was in Mount Carmen Cemetery, Glendale, Long Island.

Mr. Sigman was born in Bessarabia, Russia, in 1880. He migrated to New York in 1903 to become a presser in a cloak shop. From then until his death he was active in trade union work among the ladies' garment workers.

He was vice president of the International Union from 1910 to 1922, when he retired because of ill health. In 1928 he was elected president of the International Union and devoted the next two years of his life to fighting Communists and driving them from the union. In 1930 he resigned from the presidency and went to his home in Stony Lake, Iowa, and endeavored to regain his health.

President Green of the American Federation of Labor sent the following telegram:

"In the death of Morris Sigman the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the entire American labor movement have lost one of their finest and most devoted servants. Honesty, devotion and self-sacrifice marked the whole career of Morris Sigman. He was a great fighter and a great leader. The cause of labor he served well and those who had the honor to be associated with him mourn his loss."

CANADA IMPROVES OLD-AGE PENSION LAW

Ottawa, Can., July 25.—The resolution, under which the Dominion Government will shoulder 75 per cent of the old-age pensions granted by the House of Commons. At present the Federal Government's subsidy-aged pensions is 50 per cent, the provinces paying the other half. Premier Bennett declares this measure is a step toward a 100 per cent Federal old-age pension on a contributory basis.

FLORIDA LABOR DESIRES ADEQUATE LABOR LAWS

West Palm Beach, Fla., July 25.—Wendell C. Heaton, president of the Florida Federation of Labor, has issued a call a State conference of representatives of organized labor to effect a political organization, which will have for its major purpose the election of members to the State legislature "who are in favor of workmen's compensation and other needed labor legislation."

LONG HOURS IMPOSED ON WOMEN AND MINORS

Asheville, N. C., July 25.—A number of Asheville employers are charged with taking advantage of economic conditions to compel their employees to work long and excessive hours, in many instances "amounting to cruel and inhuman treatment." The Asheville Central Labor Union demands that the city authorities enforce without fear or favor all violation of the State law applicable to women and child labor.

MILL REMOVAL THREAT TO END TEXTILE STRIKE

Providence, R. I., July 25.—Officials of the American Woolen Co., owner of the Lafayette Mills, whose unorganized employees recently went on strike, threaten to dismantle the plant and transfer the work to the company's other mills unless the strikers disavow their radical leaders and return to work.

R. A. Brown of the U. S. Department of Labor conciliation Board, visited the mill and deputized Alderman Frank J. Duffy, a member of the Wool Cotton Union, United Textile Workers of America, to keep him in touch with developments.

MIAMI GIVES LABORERS $1 WAGE RATE BOOST

Miami, Fla., July 25.—The Miami Unemployment Committee has raised the wages of about fifty men employed on odd jobs around the city from $2 to $3 a day. The attention of the committee was attracted to the fact that while technically described as "common labor" receives $3 a day, and that the unemployed should not be victimized by paying them one-third less than the prevailing rate of wages. The committee is under the control of Mayor R. B. Gautier.

PENNSYLVANIA WORKERS GET JOB AND WAGE SLUMP

Philadelphia, July 25.—Factory employment, wage payments and working time in Pennsylvania declined sharply from May to June, according to statistics made public by the Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank. The bank's figures are based on reports from 843 manufacturing plants, which in June employed 264,000 workers and had a weekly pay roll of $5,600,000. Employment declined 5 per cent, wages 8 per cent. All basic lines showed substantial reductions in workers and pay rolls from a year ago.

POLICEMEN CONDEMN CONVICT-MADE SHIRTS

Washington, July 25.—The recommendation of the United States Bureau of Efficiency that uniform shirts for members of the District of Columbia police force be manufactured from the District Reformatory has developed general condemnation in police circles and among the citizens of the District of Columbia.

The Policemen's Association adopted a resolution against foisting convict-labor shirts on members of the force and in addition declared that the Bureau's recommendation would interfere with the employment of free labor and thus prolong the business depression. The Bureau submitted the recommendation after determining that prisoners at the reformatory could make the shirts from 2 to 3 cents cheaper than similar ones sold by shirt manufacturers. It is understood the District Commissioners oppose the proposition.

SHORTER WORK WEEK TO STOP UNEMPLOYMENT

Mt. Morris, Ill., July 25.—"People surrender too quickly because they do not realize how great is their power of enforcing their demands," John P. Frey, vice president of the Metal Polishers' International Union, in discussing shorter hours as the remedy for unemployment and strongly urged unions as the best institution to bring about the change.

"We have all had our power put to a test this last year, and we have failed to provide for hard times by setting aside the long work day and the long work week, and try for the forty-four hour week, and then the forty-hour week; if that does not do the trick, then a seven-hour day for five days, and then continuing until all men of our trade are at work."

INDUSTRIAL CODE FOR COAL INDUSTRY

New York, July 25.—The Russell Sage Foundation has elaborated a document of principles for the peaceful settlement of industrial disputes for mine management in the coal industry.

Overproduction and wasteful use of coal, leading to cut-throat over wages, are given as the chief causes of distress.

The code gives the operators a free hand in hiring and firing men with the proviso that employes shall not be discriminated against because of activity in union affairs.

Operators are also given a free hand in the introduction of labor-displacing machinery and devices.

It is suggested that miners laid off to reduce the force shall be retained in their former positions when the force is increased.

INSANITARY DRINKING FOUNTAINS FOR WORKERS

Washington, July 25.—Employers in the majority of approximately 1,500 workshops scattered throughout 12 States in the sanitary drinking fountains on their employees, declares the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor.

The bureau claims its survey of drinking fountains reveals that the large majority of the fountains are capable of transmitting disease germs, ranging from tuberculosis to the common cold.

In most of the States the only regulation is the prohibition of the common drinking cup, and even this regulation is inadequately described in 17 States.

UNEMPLOYMENT HITS GERMAN COAL MINERS

Essen, Germany, July 25.—The Rheinische Stahlwerke, one of the largest coal concerns in Germany, discharged 6,204 workers and 151 salaried employes during the year ended March 31, 1931. At the beginning of the year the company had 17,746 workers and 1,252 salaried employes. At the end of the year, 11,542 workers and 1,101 salaried employes remained. The company states that it endeavored to avoid making the reductions in its working forces by adopting part-time work, but in the end was compelled to resort to layoffs.

The company complains that while the total volume of business decreased by about 25 per cent, the cost of wages and services, including the social relief outlays as employer, rose to 63 per cent of the sales volume compared with 60 per cent the preceding year.

GLASS WORKERS HOLD WAGES AND SHORT WEEK

Atlantic City, N. J., July 25.—The American Flint Glass Workers' Union and the National Manufacturers' Association of Glass Manufacturers have reached agreement whereby the present wage agreement governing workers in the glass industry is extended for another year. The present contract expires September 1. It provides an average wage of $7.40 daily and a five and a half day working week, and affects 1,750 workers.

It was also agreed to suspend for one year the provision governing the 8 punch tumbler and stemware department.

RATE BOOST HEARING BARS RAILROAD WAGES

Washington, July 25.—The question of wages of railroad employes was barred from the Interstate Commerce Commission's hearing on the petition of the railroad executives for a 15 per cent increase in freight rates.

An attorney asked one of the executives if he did not think railroad wages are too high. Commissioner Meyer stopped the proceedings with the statement that "we shall have to deal with wages as they stand."

Green Asks Permanent Holiday In Reparations and War Debts

Washington, July 25.—A permanent holiday in reparations and war debt payments is advocated by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor. Cancellation or modification of the war debts, Green said, "would lift an economic burden from the backs of labor and free industry from the destroying effects of overcapitalization." He believes the one-year moratorium acted on Hoover will help, but that by itself it will only postpone the day of reckoning.

In a statement President Green said he felt the revision of the entire structure of war debts would be a major factor in business recovery throughout the world. He added that in his opinion any downward revision of debts owed the United States should be accompanied by a corresponding cancellation of reparations due Germany.

He pointed out that in the past he had urged some reduction in war debts and reparations, and that in the crisis in Germany, the one-year debt holiday and other developments had convinced him that payments growing out of the war were one of the major obstacles to world economic recovery.

Hoover Committee Seeks Trade Bodies' Help in Work Boom

Washington, July 25.—President Hoover's Emergency Committee for Employment requests the co-operation of some 700 trade associations to stimulate employment in the industries they represent, Arthur Fred C. Croxton, acting chairman of the committee. The stimulation is expected to make two jobs grow where there is now but one by the familiar policy of dividing up available work.

Mr. Croxton points out that the committee's work has had two phases. The first one is promoting methods for providing work regularly as far as possible during the present emergency. The second is suggesting means for the better control of business operations by long-term planning with the ultimate aim of greater regularity of income for those engaged upon industry and business.

Scheduling work does not seem to have had much effect in reducing unemployment, but the committee still places the number of out-of-works at around 6,000,000, which is the number reported by the special census survey last January. The committee attempts to minimize the significance of these figures by suggesting that even grouped and unofficial estimates place normal number of out-of-works at from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000, which number includes "those persons who are voluntarily unemployed or unable to work."

The committee has thrown a cover all for the unemployed, but draws comfort from the conviction that the "whole relief idea will be changed by the prospect of decreasing the number of declining years and the consequent benefits of old-age pensions." The committee feels that the spreading of available work among the unemployed wage earners who would be employed is important. The committee is also emphasizing the maintenance of wages.

Equitable Wealth Distribution Asked by Federal Church Council

Criticism of our business order for favoring investors at the expense of the workers, and demands for a more equitable distribution of wealth and consideration of profits for the masses are the outstanding features of Labor Sunday Message for 1931 issued by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

"Unfortunately, business is so organized as to give greater security to investors than to wage earners, the greater emphasis still being upon security of property," the Council declares. "Reserves are commonly set aside in good years for the payment of dividends while the most ample similar reserves have been made to stabilize the workers' income.

"In 1930, when unemployment was severe, the total dividends paid by industrial, traction and railroad corporations, according to the Standard Statistics Company, amounted to $313,600,000 more than those paid in the prosperous year of 1929, while at the same time the index of factory pay rolls of the Federal Reserve Board showed that the total wages of factory workers fell 20 per cent from the total paid in 1929, with even more grave inequities shown as workmen's compensation, health insurance, unemployment insurance, maternity benefits, and old age pensions."

The message closes with a summons to the churches "to assume their rightful place of ethical leadership" by demand fundamental changes in present economic conditions that subordinate the selfish desire for wealth as the principal motive of industry, and to insist upon the creation of an industrial society which shall have as its purpose the abundant life and freedom for the masses of mankind."

COTTON MILLS ENDING NIGHT WORK FOR WOMEN

New York, July 25.—The Cotton Textile Institute characterizes as erroneous and inaccurately published reports to the effect that cotton mills in Greenville, S. C., were deviating from their announced policy regarding the elimination of employment of women and minors on the night shift.

Practically all the cotton mills of Greenville were included in the 85 per cent of the industry that agreed to the elimination of night work for women and children, and the policy is in effect in all the subscribing mills in that section and in 97% per cent of the subscribing mills throughout the country, the Institute declares.

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JOBLESS INSURANCE CONDEMNED BY WOLL

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Union Secures Key Decision In Jobless Insurance Case

The advantage of a strong trade union in securing a square deal under unemployment insurance is illustrated by a recent experience of the Amalgamated Engineering Union of Great Britain.

The British unemployment insurance act prescribes that three days' consecutive unemployment shall entitle insured workers' to unemployment benefits. "Customary or recognized holidays" are not included in the count.

A firm employing a number of the members of the union had the habit of closing its works from two to seven days at Christmas, according to the length of down extended to seven days. Members of the union claimed that certain of these days should count for unemployment insurance. The local Court of Referees disallowed the claim. Officials of the union appealed the case to the Deputy Umpire, who decided that for the workers in question "the customary Christmas holidays" consists of two days only. The members of the union were therefore entitled to unemployment insurance for five days out of the seven.

"This aspect of the union's activities should be kept in the forefront," while pointing out the advantages of association," declare the union officials in commenting on the Deputy Umpire's decision.

Nova Scotia Trade Unions Win $6,485 Disputed Wage Award

Members of the Machinists' Union and the Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders' union of Halifax, Nova Scotia are jubilant over their success in securing the back pay award for over $6,000 for increased wages for work done on the Canadian Government dry dock breaker, the Halifax Herald and Mail says.

In the spring of 1929 the machinists and boilermakers and iron shipbuilders employed on the icebreaker requested a wage increase from 60 cents an hour to 75 cents. The Canadian Department of Labor granted the increase. But the management of Labor ordered the company to pay the established rate. The management refused to do so, and under instructions from the Department of Labor the Department of Marine withheld money due the company on this work. The money was subsequently paid in the Marine Department ever since.

William Rander, Vice President Of Painters' Brotherhood, Dead

Port Chester, N. Y., July 25.—William M. Rander, fifth vice president of the International Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, died at his home here.

Mr. Rander was born in Denmark 69 years ago and came to America when he was 21. In 1906 he was appointed organizer for the Brotherhood and continued as such until his election to the office of fifth vice president at the 1929 general assembly. In 1929 he was also elected vice president of the New York State Council of Painters.

His career in labor started when he joined the Painters' Brotherhood.